

**News Release**  
**U.S. Department of Justice**  
*United States Attorney*  
*District of Rhode Island*

**May 4, 2004**

## **Child Molester Pleads Guilty to Child Pornography Charges**

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### **Daniel Davidson is serving 28 years at the ACI**

**Daniel Davidson**, formerly of Jamestown, pleaded guilty today to possessing child pornography. Davidson, who is serving 28 years at the Rhode Island Adult Correctional Institutions for child molestation and kidnapping, admitted to a federal charge that he had dozens of images of child pornography in his car when police arrested him in July 2000.

The Office of the United States Attorney announced the guilty plea, which Davidson entered today before U.S. District Court Judge Mary M. Lisi in U.S. District Court, Providence. Davidson, 43, a retired Naval Chief Petty Officer, is scheduled to be sentenced on July 30.

At the plea hearing, Assistant U.S. Attorney Andrew J. Reich said that, had the case gone to trial, the government would have proven that, on July 28, 2000, the day after Davidson was arrested on a kidnapping charge, police seized from his car 13 pages containing 24 child pornography pictures and five computer disks containing 83 images of child pornography. The vast majority of images were of pre-pubescent minors or minors under 12 years of age.

Davidson pleaded guilty to one count of possessing computer disks and other material containing visual depictions of real children that were images of child pornography. The statutory maximum penalty is five years in federal prison and a \$250,000 fine. Federal sentencing is determined on the basis of guidelines that rely on such factors as the specific nature of an offense and a defendant's criminal background, if any.

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Police obtained a warrant to search Davidson's car after he was arrested on July 27, 2000 on a charge of kidnapping a 6-year old girl in Pawtucket earlier that day. He was subsequently charged with molesting a North Kingstown girl in September 1999 and kidnapping a Narragansett girl in October 1999. He subsequently pleaded guilty to three state charges – one count of child molestation and two counts of kidnapping. On September 13, 2002, Rhode Island Superior Court Judge Vincent Indeglia sentenced Davidson to serve 28 years of a 60-year sentence.

The **Naval Criminal Investigative Service** investigated the case, along with the **Pawtucket, North Kingstown, and Narragansett Police Departments**. Assistant U.S. Attorney Reich is prosecuting it.

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